

Valerie Plame leak case, others set the political process in motion, and the loyal aide did the deed and took the rap. The Senate should not stop at Gonzales' actions, but should press to find out who pressured him to take these unconscionable actions.

Ashcroft supermoralistically draped the body of the department's statue of justice to hide her contours; Gonzales amorally tore off her blindfold. Both diminished the prestige of an important government agency.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL ANTHONY J. "LAZER" LAZARSKI

Mr. INHOFE. Madam President, I am here today to recognize and pay tribute to COL Anthony J. "Lazer" Lazarski, Chief of the Air Force Senate Liaison, for his 25 years of exceptional service and dedication to the U.S. Air Force and our great country. Colonel Lazarski is a command pilot with over 2,300 flight hours in 12 different types of aircraft, including the RF-4, F-15, F-16, F-111 and F-117. He has supported combat operations around the world, to include the Libya Raid and Operations Desert Storm, Desert Fox, Allied Force, Southern Watch, and Iraqi Freedom. Throughout his military career, he has been recognized by his superiors and subordinates as a leader in the air and on the ground—an Airman with the ability to motivate and lead.

COL Lazer Lazarski grew up in North Arlington, NJ, and watched them build the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center from the basement up. He earned an appointment to the Air Force Academy and graduated in 1982 with military honors. Upon completion of pilot training, he was selected to fly the F-111 and earned the distinction of Top Gun for both his T-38 Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals class and his F-111 Replacement Training Unit class. While flying in Tactical Air Command with the 79th NATO Tigers at RAF Upper Heyford, he was selected as the wing's youngest instructor pilot. Shortly thereafter, he was selected as the youngest United States Air Forces in Europe flight examiner. As a pilot, I can attest to the fact that you only allow your sharpest and most mature pilots to set, evaluate, and enforce the standards for other pilots. I happen to be a flight instructor currently. I can assure you, they are the very best people. This is a major accomplishment he was able to achieve.

Colonel Lazarski later transitioned to the F-117 Stealth Fighter and earned Top Gun in his third aircraft, this time during a Southern Watch deployment over the skies of Iraq. Colonel Lazarski demonstrated he could not only deliver precise weapons on target on time, he could also motivate and lead others. In recognition of his extraordinary leadership, he was named 12th Air Force Flight Commander of the Year, and selected to attend the Naval War College.

After graduating from the Naval War College in 1994, he served 3 years in Naples, Italy at NATO Headquarters, including as the aide-de-camp to two

different Commanders, Allied Air Forces in Southern Europe. One of these Commanders was then LTG Mike Ryan, who would later become Air Force Chief of Staff. During his tour, he was one of the first combat troops on the ground in Sarajevo as he helped set up the NATO Air Operations Center.

In 1997, he transitioned to the F-15 Strike Eagle, serving as the 336th Fighter Squadron Assistant Operations Officer and deployed commander from Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, NC. During this tour he also served as Chief of the Command Post and integrated new command and control systems to include hurricane tracking/forecasting systems put to test in 3 years of multiple hurricanes.

In 2001 he graduated No. 1 from his Air War College Class, earning the Wright Brothers Officership Award and Military Outstanding Volunteer Medal. This honor earned him the right to serve the next year at Vance Air Force Base, in my home state of Oklahoma as the Deputy Operations Group Commander.

Due to the superb leadership Colonel Lazarski demonstrated at Vance, he was selected as the Director of Air Combat Command's Commander Action Group—the strategic "think tank" for our Air Force's lead combat command. In this position he was given the immense responsibility for developing strategy, doctrine, concepts, tactics and procedures for U.S. air and space power employment.

Colonel Lazarski's next assignment led him back to command, this time in Air Education Training Command as the Commander of the 479th Flying Training Group where he was responsible for training new pilots in the T-6, and new fighter pilots and weapons officers in the T-38. Colonel Lazarski oversaw 115 aircraft averaging 300 sorties a day, and despite five hurricanes in one season, no student ever graduated late under Colonel Lazarski's leadership.

In 2005 at the culmination of an exceptional military career, Colonel Lazarski was reassigned to Capitol Hill as the Chief of the Air Force Senate Liaison Division. Here Colonel Lazarski integrated his remarkable experience and leadership with ceaseless integrity, initiative, and persistence to result in unparalleled effectiveness on behalf of the Air Force and our Nation.

We offer our sincere thanks to Colonel Lazarski, his wife Stephanie, and their son Andrew for their unwavering support of our country and the freedom we hold so dear. We congratulate Colonel Lazarski on the completion of an exemplary active-duty career. Utilizing the theme from one of my favorite books, Message to Garcia, let me close by saying: Message delivered and job well done! Now a new mission awaits you, and I'm honored to have you serve your country again, this time as my Military Legislative Assistant. Congratulations and welcome!

REMOVAL OF COSPONSOR

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, I ask that Senator PETE DOMENICI be removed as a cosponsor to S. 1038, the Workforce Health Improvement Act, and added as a cosponsor to S. 1083, the SKIL Act. Let the RECORD reflect that due to a clerical error Senator DOMENICI was inadvertently added as a cosponsor to the Workforce Health Improvement Act.

IN RECOGNITION OF HEIDEH SHAHMORADI

Mr. BOND. Madam President, today I rise to acknowledge the very special and meaningful contributions of Ms. Heideh Shahmoradi, who is departing the U.S. Senate after serving as detailee for some 4 years from the Department of Transportation. I come to the floor today to thank personally Heideh for her assistance and professionalism as a detailee to me on both the Environment and Public Works, EPW, Committee and the Appropriations Committee.

In my former position as chair of the EPW's Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Heideh provided me with invaluable advice and help in the development and passage of the highway reauthorization legislation, Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users, or SAFETEA. Heideh played a key role in helping the committee understand the complexities and implications of SAFETEA which helped to ensure that the final legislation properly balanced these very complex policy and funding issues. And as a program expert from the Department, Heideh was able to provide valuable insights on the potential impact of the legislation on highway transportation activities. Heideh not only contributed significantly in analyzing the legislation but she also performed important duties, such as research, fact-checking, editing, and drafting report language and legislation. Heideh did it all with distinction and unflappable good humor.

Her skills and performance on working on the EPW Committee made it an easy decision to bring her back from the Department to help me on the Appropriations Committee. Heideh not only continued to assist me on the Federal-aid highway programs on the Senate Transportation, HUD, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, but she also quickly became a resource and expert on all of the other modes under the Department of Transportation.

Throughout her tenure on Capitol Hill, Heideh provided technical expertise and programmatic knowledge that was critical in policymaking decisions on both the authorizing and appropriations committees. Her ability to provide a reality check on legislation helped tremendously in protecting the best interests of our communities and